

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Activity in Neuruppin, Neustrelitz, and Letzling Heath

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 30 August 1954

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

25X1

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED

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1. At 1625 on 10 August 1954, a column passed through Neuruppin and proceeded

122-mm field howitzers, one armored personnel carrier, and 2 trucks with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia went in the same direction. On 12 August, soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia erected a pontoon bridge across the Rhin River near Neumuehler Schleuse north of Altruppin. Deep imprints of tank tracks were seen in the area. 1

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- 2.

The troops apparently came from exercises. An informant said that tank exercises were held in the Wilhelminenhof area (east-northeast of Neustrelitz) after 0100 on 6 August. 2

3. At noon on 12 August, an engineer column left the northeast sector of Letzling Heath and proceeded toward the Tangermunde-Bittkau Elbe River section. It consisted of 8 DUKW-353 amphibious vehicles, 30 trucks with 14 M2P-type pontoons broken down into two loads each and 2 SP guns. Trucks were observed.

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1. Comment. According to another report, major elements of the 12th Gds Tank Div departed Neuruppin on 10 August for exercises in the east and

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southeast sector of Wittstock troop training grounds. [redacted]
 The present report indicates that the exercises were still going on on 13 August. It is assumed that the units crossed the pontoon bridge erected over the Rhin River. The bridge was probably made by the 205th Engr Bn of the division. 25X1

2. [redacted] Comment. It is believed that units of the 9th Gds Tank Div conducted firing practices at the Speck-Granzin firing range and held exercises in the area east and east-northeast of Neustrelitz during the period mentioned. Tank units of the division from the Neue Infanterie Kaserne possibly conducted exercises in the Wilhelminenhof area from which they returned during the night of 12 August. 25X1

3. [redacted] Comment. [redacted]
 It is believed that units of those of the army stationed in Letzling Heath practiced in the sector which surrounds the Bittkau engineer training site. They probably conducted an exercise with bridge construction and bridge-head formation under wartime conditions. It is possible that elements of the 207th Mtn Rifle Div, which were no longer in the Waldlager southeast of Jaevenitz on 10 August, participated in the exercises or that the exercises were conducted by these units proper. 25X1

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